



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

August 20, 2020

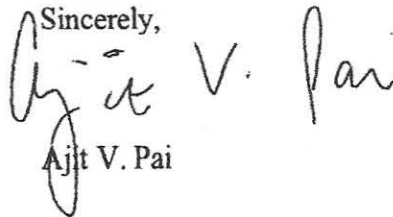
The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senate
478 Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Gillibrand:

Thank you for your letter supporting the application of Phoenix House for funding under the Federal Communications Commission's COVID-19 Telehealth Program, which is funded through a Congressional appropriation as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act.

The Commission received thousands of applications from interested health care providers, including the application that Phoenix House submitted. Consistent with the COVID-19 Telehealth Report and Order establishing the Program, Commission staff reviewed applications on a rolling basis and prioritized funding to health care providers located in areas that are hardest hit by COVID-19 and where the support would have the greatest impact on addressing health care needs by preventing, preparing for, and responding to the coronavirus. In total, the Commission issued funding commitments for 539 applications in 47 states plus Washington, D.C. and Guam. However, demand for funding significantly exceeded the Program budget and, on July 8, 2020, the Commission exhausted the \$200 million budget appropriated by Congress for the Program. Accordingly, unless Congress provides additional funding for the program, the Commission will not be able to fund the remaining applications from health care providers, including Phoenix House.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai